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Public Health Committee

CT General Assembly
State Capital
Hartford, CT 06106

Members of the Public Health Committee,

I am writing in support of S.B. Number 1076

I've read much of the testimony of people in support of this bill and also those opposed.

There are so many reasons on both sides which I have decided not to address.

I've read that some 70% of residents in CT are in favor of the right to die. I don't care what it's called. Assisted suicide? Yeah. OK. Fortunately we are reaching a point in time that the stigma attached to that act is diminished. Not going to argue semantics. Legislators are voted in to represent what the people of the state want. Maybe I'm mistaken but it seems to me that if the majority of the people that you represent want this bill why is it not being passed? I agree that the language of a bill like this has to be written so as to prevent any abuse. Like anything else that involves passion on both sides such as abortion, it should remain a choice. If you are against aid in dying then don't choose it. But don't deny it to people who choose it. These are CHOICES. People are free to make them regardless of the law. In my mind this bill will provide people with a path to a more humane end.

I am well acquainted with loss. I've had elderly relatives die. I've lost relatives and friends who have suffered greatly prior to death. I've had relatives choose to stop treatment. I've known people who have committed suicide using a gun. People are going to make choices regardless of the law. Please give them the right to choose. All that is being asked is for a humane, peaceful way to do what they are going to do anyway.

Respectfully,

Debra Ellis